FORM PTO-1390 (REV. 11-2000)

OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

VAC.483

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5

| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US00/08821  | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 31 March 2000  | PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 02 April 1999        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| TITLE OF INVENTION VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE SY   | STEM WITH PROVISION FOR INT  | RODUCTION OF AGENT                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US<br>JOHNSON, Royce W.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applicant herewith submits to the United Sta  | ates Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)  | the following items and other information: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. This is a FIRST submission of items  | concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. X This is an express request to begin nation items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated  | ational examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 37 below.  | 71(f)). The submission must include        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. X A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))  a.  is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>a.  sattached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</li> <li>b.  has been communicated by the International Bureau.</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I = '   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. is attached hereto.  |  | **************************************     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b. kas been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. X Amendments to the claims of the International Aplication under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | ed only if not communicated by the International Populary  | onal Bureau).                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I = -   | by the International Bureau.   | nts has NOT assigned                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | ver, the time limit for making such amendme  | ints has NOT expired.                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d. 🗶 have not been made and w   |  | 1 10 (25 M.C.C. 251 ( )(2))                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | ne amendments to the claims under PCT Arti   | cie 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. X An oath or declaration of the inventor   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. An English lanugage translation of the Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).  | ne annexes of the International Preliminary E  | xamination Report under PCT                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Items 11 to 20 below concern documen  | t(s) or information included:  | <i></i>                                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. An Information Disclosure Statem  | ent under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.  | V.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. An assignment document for recor  | ding. A separate cover sheet in compliance   | with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13. A FIRST preliminary amendment.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14. A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT pi   | reliminary amendment.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. A substitute specification.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16. A change of power of attorney and   |  | •  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17. A computer-readable form of the s   | equence listing in accordance with PCT Rule  | 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18. A second copy of the published int  | ternational application under 35 U.S.C. 154(o  | d)(4).                                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19. A second copy of the English lang   | A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20. X Other items or information:   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Addressee" service, Express Mail Label No. EL6394 20231. Date: 10/8/0/ By:  | (0): I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the 30147US, on the othe indicated below, and is addressed to As |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| U.S. AIP CO ON NO CO kn  | 47.94         | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US00/08821 |              |   | ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER VAC.483 |                           |          |  |
|--|---------------|--|--------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|--|
| 21. The following fees are submitted:  |               |  |              |   | CAI                              | CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY |          |  |
| BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)):   |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1000.00                    |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO\$860.00  |               |  |              |   |                                  | •                         |          |  |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO   |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)\$690.00  |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)\$100.00  |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           | <u> </u> |  |
| ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =   |               |  |              |   | \$ 1                             | 00.00                     |          |  |
| Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 20 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).  |               |  |              |   | \$                               |                           |          |  |
| CLAIMS   | NUMBER FILI   | E <b>D</b>                                   | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE                                    | \$                               | i                         |          |  |
| Total claims   | 10 - 20       | =  | 0            | x \$18.00                               | \$ 0                             | .00                       |          |  |
| Independent claims   | 1 -3          | =  | 0            | x \$80.00                               | \$ 0                             | .00                       |          |  |
| MULTIPLE DEPEN   | DENT CLAIM(S) | (if app                                      | olicable) +  | + \$270.00                              | \$ o                             | .00                       |          |  |
| TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =  |               |  |              |   | \$ 1                             | 00.00                     |          |  |
| Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.  |               |  |              |   | \$                               |                           |          |  |
|  |               |  | SI           | JBTOTAL =                               | \$ 1                             | 00.00                     |          |  |
| Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 20 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).   |               |  |              |   | <b>\$</b> C                      | 0.00                      |          |  |
| TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =   |               |  |              |   | \$ 20                            | 00.00                     |          |  |
| Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property +   |               |  |              |   | s c                              | .00                       |          |  |
| TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =  |               |  |              |   | \$ 2                             | 00.00                     |          |  |
|  |               |  |              |   |                                  | ount to be<br>refunded:   | \$       |  |
|  |               | · ·  |              |   |                                  | charged:                  | \$       |  |
| a. A check in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees is enclosed.  b. Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-0326 in the amount of \$ 200.00 to cover the above fees.  A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.        |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| c. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any  |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0326 A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.   |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| d. Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.                   |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  |               |  |              |   |                                  | 1                         | 7.       |  |
| KINETIC CONCEPTS, INC.   |               |  |              | JRE -                                   |                                  |                           |          |  |
|  |               |  | em G. Bridi  |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| P.O. Box 659508  |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| San Antonio, Texas 78265-9508 42.36  |               |  |              |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
| LUSA   |               |  | ATION NUMBER |   |                                  |                           |          |  |
|  |               |  |              | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, |                                  |                           |          |  |